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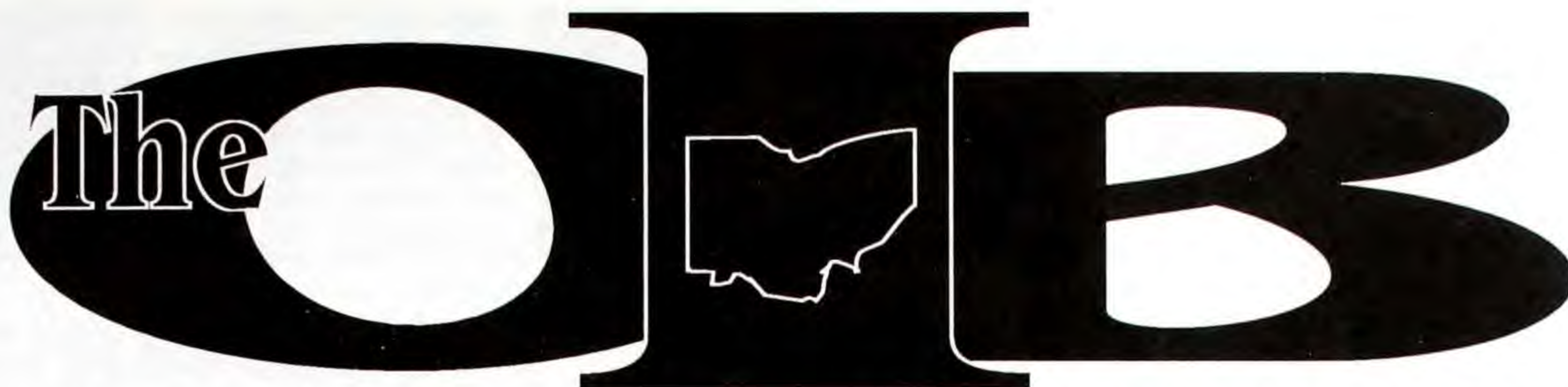
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The Ohio Independent Baptist

The Newsletter of the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches

Vol. 65 No.7

November/December 1992

Helping Churches Minister To Families

Christ—The Heart Of The Home": such was the theme of the 1992 OARBC Annual Conference held at Immanuel Baptist Church of Columbus on October 26-28. The local church is, in reality, a family of families. Our congregations are made up in large part of husbands and wives, dads and moms, parents and children living together in homes. The great need in our churches today is for God-honoring, Christ-centered homes built on the Word of God. The aim of this year's conference was to encourage our churches and help them fulfill this ideal.

We were delighted to welcome back to our state Paul Jackson, who recently moved from the pastorate of Grace Baptist, Cedarville, to director-elect of Evangelical Baptist Missions. Jackson brought a powerful message from I Corinthians 7 concerning the benefits and pressures of marriage, especially for those in the Lord's work.

Tuesday morning, Pastor Merlyn Jones spoke on the influence of the godly home on children. The highlight of his presentation was a family quartet with his wife, Nancy, and children, Mark and Lori.

Tuesday afternoon, in the men's workshop, Dr. Russell Lloyd, from Washington Heights, Dayton, led an in-depth discussion on "Restoring The Fractured Family." He gave specific help to pastors on steps to take in formulating a plan of restoration for families on the brink of breakup.

Wednesday began with a touching account from Pastor Lynn Rogers and his wife, LaVerne, on "Dealing With Stress In The Home," as they recounted God's marvelous grace experienced in the

illness and death of their son.

The closing session was a powerful message by Pastor Tim Kenoyer on, "The Sufficiency Of The Word of God In Ministering To Hurting Families."

Not only were the messages relevant to our churches, the lessons were practical and helpful for all of us as we seek to build stronger, more effective family ministries in our churches.

On the last day, the Association enthusiastically passed a resolution commending Immanuel Baptist pastor and people for their outstanding work in hosting the conference. Details such as help in parking, nighttime parking lot guards, greeters, snacks of fruit and homemade muffins and an always-available copy machine were a delight. Emmanuel's musicians encouraged our hearts with their ministries.

Our sincere thanks to all who helped to make this an outstanding conference.

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1992-93 OARBC Council of Twelve

An important feature of our annual conference is the seating of the new Council of Twelve. This year just one new member was elected— Pastor Max McCullough.

Tim Kenoyer, Maranatha Baptist, Columbus (**Chairman**)
Lynn Rogers, Northfield Baptist, Northfield (**Vice-Chairman**)
Tom Wright, Memorial Baptist, Columbus (**Treasurer**)
Drew Baker, Emmanuel Baptist, Dayton (**Secretary**)
Larry Engle, Graham Road Baptist, Cuyahoga Falls
Ken Floyd, Perry Baptist, Canton
Gus Guthrie, Calvary Baptist, Tiffin
Joel Harriman, New Richland Baptist, Belle Center
Merlyn Jones, Faith Baptist, Mount Vernon
Max McCullough, Grace Baptist, Canton
Ben Reed, Faith Baptist, Niles
Ken Spink, Berea Baptist, Berea



Hats off to Ohio's newest Regular Baptist ministry, Calvary Christian School, Byesville. The school opened September 1 with grades K-5.



Maria Biggs, Faith Baptist Church, Mount Vernon, was awarded Skyview Ranch's highest honor during the 1992 summer camp season by receiving the Skyview Ranch Director's Award for support staff. Maria, a Cedarville College elementary education major, spent ten weeks at the Ranch counseling young people and working with crafts.

Having an Impact on Ohio



Larry Fetzer
State
Representative

"A beautiful example of how to handle difficult issues in a God-honoring way." That was the universal opinion spoken after the Tuesday morning business hour. The topic: a failed hospitalization plan that left the OARBC deeply in debt and some of our people without health-care coverage.

Yes, there were some pretty heavy issues up for discussion. But through it all a loving spirit of concern for one another. Not the least bit of rancor, no arguing or accusing, no finger-pointing. Rather, a strong expression of support and cooperation. The mood was not gloomy nor defeatist, but rather, very optimistic. Yes, it is a lot of money, but let's not cry about it. Let's get going and raise the needed funds. Let's make sure all our people are properly cared for, and get the thing paid off and put it behind us! We cannot let this hinder us from the work God gave us to do.

What a joy to be a part of such an association. I thank God for the positive spirit, and the action taken already. By the close of the conference, over \$100,000 had either been given in cash, or committed to the Regular Baptist Fellowship payoff account. It is our intention to continue to pursue this matter to its conclusion along biblical lines. Please pray for us.

I have some open dates for this winter, including some in December. If I can help you, please call me at 614-523-3666.

Larry Fetzer

Try This in Your Church

Ideas That Work!

In an effort to reach the unchurched in Willoughby Hills, Nottingham Baptist Church ran 100 spots on two local radio stations. The ads were designed in-house, by the Nottingham Marketing Group, and professionally produced. The goal was to make the unchurched of the area aware of Nottingham Baptist. "We want to grow our own, rather than take in people from other churches," said Nottingham pastor Scott Renstrom. The informative and humorous ads apparently produced the community awareness they were seeking; attendance is up about 80, according to Pastor Renstrom.

Has God blessed your church with an unusual ministry? Tell us about it!

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Cedarville College News

The 2,172 students who started classes fall quarter at Cedarville College set another enrollment record. The student population, up 126 over last fall, has grown 80 percent in the 14 years since Dr. Paul Dixon became president. The class of 593 freshmen includes a growing number of top scholars. Ten percent were valedictorians and 27 percent were in the top ten percent of their high school classes. This year's freshmen include 10 national merit finalists or semi-finalists as well as 49 President's Scholars who scored in the top two percent in the nation on the ACT or SAT tests.

To help house the growing student population, the College recently built a 96-bed addition to Willetts Hall women's dormitory.

Cedarville College has named its Engineering Department in honor of the late Dr. Elmer W. Engstrom, an internationally known engineer and president of RCA who actively shared his faith in Jesus Christ. The Engineering/Nursing/Science Center was dedicated during the Homecoming Weekend. The building provides almost 100,000 square feet for the departments and for the study of the applied sciences. General classrooms serve almost 70 percent of the student body each week. Completed for the 1992-93 school year, the facility is the focus of a \$7 million campaign. A \$400,000 Kresge grant will complete the campaign.

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Reading the OIB helps Texas missionary Helen Gardner keep in touch with her home state. Helen is a member of the Struthers Baptist Tabernacle. Why not subscribe to the OIB for your missionaries? At \$4 per year, it's a bargain!

Retired (?) Ohio pastor Harry Cole and Joan will spend January-March assisting ABWE missionaries Phil & Barb Klumpp in Cebu City, Philippines, as they plant a new Baptist church. The Coles must raise their own support for those three months, and ask prayer concerning this need.

CDR Radio Listeners Respond to Famine



Left to right: CDR General Manager Paul Gathany, Marketing Director Mark Kordic and Program Director Jon Skillman receive an award for being the number one station in the midwest in terms of listener involvement.

Listeners to CDR Radio (WCDR 90.3 FM) were among the first to respond to what's being called the worst famine in Africa in this century.

CDR Radio is part of a nationwide network of 23 Christian radio stations which are responding to the crisis. Partnering with MISSION NETWORK NEWS and World Concern, a Christian relief and development agency headquartered in Seattle, Washington, CDR Radio is sending food and other supplies to Somalia and 13 other nations in southern Africa.

CDR Radio Marketing Director Mark Kordic said that listeners to the stations have met the needs of more than 3,000 needy children in the last two months. He reports that CDR Radio is the number one station in the midwest in terms of response.

"Christian relief agencies were among the first to provide relief in the famine stricken region. Listeners in the Miami Valley are responding enthusiastically to the crisis. Many are surprised that it takes only \$27 to feed one child for an entire month."

Contributions to the African Famine Relief Project may be made by calling World Concern at 1-800-341-1188. World Concern was founded in 1954 and has field workers in 60 countries around the world.

Church Planting in Ohio

Laying the Foundation

Dr. Robert Gromacki, pastor of Grace Community Church, writes, "On October 1, we became owners of 17 acres of choice ground on Glenn Avenue in Washington Court House. We made an initial payment of \$70,000 toward the \$135,000 purchase price. We will pay the remainder in January, 1993."

Grace Community's September average was 106, and Gromacki notes that four from the church are attending Cedarville College.

Over 200 requests for more information were received by Shawnee Hills Baptist Church in their recent Phones For You project entitled, "Go Tell Everyone (G.T.E.)." Shawnee Hills is a church planting project of Temple Baptist, Portsmouth. James L. Collingsworth, who is on the staff of Temple Baptist as associate pastor in church planting, pastors Shawnee Hills.

In preparation for their first public service, Collingsworth hosted four Thursday evening "Let's Get Acquainted" meetings in August. The purpose of the meetings was "to inform interested believers of what Shawnee Hills is and stands for, and to mobilize them for action," according to Collingsworth. He reports that by the third Sunday morning service, September 27, there were 58 in attendance.

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Hearty thanks to Council of Twelve Retiring Chairman Brad Quick, First Baptist Church, Elyria, for six years of faithful service on the Council.

Across the State



Assistant Pastor Paul and Jana Matthiesen, Anna and Tylan

Toledo

On September 1, Paul Matthiesen joined the staff of **Emmanuel Baptist** as assistant pastor for youth. He is a graduate of Faith Baptist Bible College, with a B.A. in Bible and Pastoral Ministries. Paul came to Emmanuel from Creston, Iowa, where he ministered since 1986. While in Iowa, Paul served on the Youth Committee of the GARBC. Paul and his wife, Jana, have two children.

Emmanuel Baptist hosted a Life Action Ministry revival crusade September 13-29. According to Ministries Coordinator Dan Friesner, the two-week-plus crusade produced a great spiritual awakening in the church, with many people getting right with each other and with God. The Life Action program provided 42 people to lead couples' seminars, small group meetings, women's meetings, men's prayer meetings, a 2-day Master Control program for high schoolers, as well as a full range of meetings for children.



Youth Pastor Brian Conover

Springfield

Southgate Baptist has welcomed Brian Conover to its staff as youth pastor. Pastor Conover is a graduate of Baptist Bible College in Clarks Summit, Pennsylvania, with a B.S. in Youth Ministries. He served one year as a pastoral apprentice at Calvary Baptist Church in Norwich, New York. Pastor Barry Kilmer, Southgate's previous youth pastor, has moved into the position of associate pastor for singles and adult education, and Pastor Mike Eiras is associate pastor of evangelism and discipleship.

Dayton

On September 10, Pastor R. Drew Baker, of **Emmanuel Baptist**, defended his doctrinal beliefs before an examining council of 38 men. The council, moderated by Pastor Lynn Rogers of Northfield Baptist, Northfield, unanimously recommended to the members of Emmanuel that Pastor Baker be ordained. The motion commended him on his honesty, forthrightness, humility and tenderness in his answers to the council.

On Sunday, September 13, an ordination service was held at the church, with the charge to the church being presented by Paul Jackson, director-elect of Evangelical Baptist Missions, and the charge to the candidate by Dr. Paul Dixon, president of Cedarville College. The ordination sermon-in-song was given by Lynn Rogers, under whose ministry Baker was saved.

Niles

On Saturday, September 12, **First Baptist** hosted a Deacon Caring Ministry Seminar, taught by Dr. Howard Bixby, executive vice-president of Baptist Bible College and Seminary. About 70 pastors and deacons from 14 churches participated in the all-day seminar, which provided training in the biblical principles and methods of meeting the needs of people through the church ministry. Ben Reed, pastor of First Baptist, recommends this program to other interested pastors and deacons.

Dayton

"Able in the Scriptures and experienced in the pastorate" is Pastor Dan Gelatt's description of Dr. David Drullinger, **Washington Heights'** new preaching partner. Drullinger, assistant professor of Bible at Cedarville College, and his wife, Helen, began their ministry at Washington Heights in September. His coming coincides with the church's implementation of a permanent two-service plan for Sunday morning worship.



Left to right: Steve Brown, Sheryl Brown, Pastor Dennis Henderson, Pastor Mark Kordic, Debbie Jones, Pete Battaglia

Jamestown

Members of **Shawnee Hills Baptist** broke ground for a new educational annex in August. Pastor Dennis Henderson says the church has been planning for the \$176,000 addition for the past five years. "Over the past year, attendance has increased by fifteen percent. We thank God for His blessing on the ministry," said Henderson. The annex will be used to accommodate the church's growing Sunday school, Adult Bible Fellowship, and AWANA youth program.

The congregation has raised approximately twenty percent of the construction cost for the annex.

Findlay

The Praise Singers Teen Choir from **First Baptist** placed first in Senior High Vocal Groups and third in Senior High Vocal and Instrumental Groups at Word of Life International Teens Involved, held at Schroon Lake, New York, July 25-August 1. Teens from First also placed second in instrumental groups, and second and fifth in small vocal groups. Also receiving honors were Matt Uncapher, fifth in male vocal solo, and Holly Peterson, first in Bible storytelling. In the junior high competition, Matt Casburn placed fourth and Kevin Boblitt fifth in male vocal solo; Sarah Fenstermaker and April Melton placed fourth in a keyboard duet.

Pastor David Melton, formerly at First Baptist, has taken a position on the staff of Faith Baptist, Winter Haven, Florida.

Then There Were Five!

Jeff & Lois Beachler, members of Grace Baptist, Westerville, are the busy parents of quads. Evan, Ann, Katherine and Mackenzie were born September 10, weighing from 3 lb., 3 oz. to 3 lb., 14 oz. The Beachlers have one other child, age 3.



Pastor Gary and Joyce Nave, Megan, Jessica, and Beth

Toledo

Bethel Baptist is

pleased to receive their new pastor, Rev. Gary Nave. He and his wife, Joyce, and three daughters, come to Bethel from Raleigh, North Carolina.

Gary is a graduate of Western Michigan University, Word of Life Bible Institute, and Grace Theological Seminary. Currently he is working on an additional degree from Luther Rice Seminary.

At the installation service on September 27, State Representative Larry Fetzter challenged the congregation to realize that a pastor is God's special gift to the church, and encouraged them on, "How to Take Care of Pastor." The Naves were presented with a food shower at a fellowship on August 31. At the same fellowship the church expressed its appreciation to Dr. Jim Phipps for his availability during the time without a pastor. Dr. Phipps was greatly used of God during his ministry at Bethel.

The congregation is excited to see what God has in store for them under the ministry of Pastor Nave and Associate Pastor Kevin Salisbury.

Tiffin

Calvary Baptist

recently celebrated Old Fashioned Sunday, in which everyone came in costumes of olden days.

After the morning service the congregation gathered for an "old fashioned carry-in dinner," with homemade ice cream for dessert. Friends of the church provided horse and buggy rides for the children, and homemade apple pies were judged for appearance and taste.

The church also provided a Christmas in September tea for missionary Joyce Rudduck.



Pastor and Mrs. Fred Robb

Salem

On Saturday, August 15, a fellowship supper was held in honor of Pastor and Mrs. Fred Robb's 20th anniversary at Calvary Baptist. The

Sunday speaker was Jonathon Burns, pastor of Calvary Church in Marion Center, Pennsylvania. The church in Marion Center is the first pastorate for Burns, who grew up in the Salem church, and it was also Pastor Robb's first church.

Akron

Highview Avenue Baptist

is pleased to announce the arrival of their new pastor and wife, Rev. and Mrs. Dale Fisher. Their ministry in

Akron began on September 13, and a special afternoon installation service was held on September 27. Rev. David Henry of First Baptist, Tallmadge, officially welcomed Pastor Fisher to the Akron Area Pastors' Fellowship. A charge to the church was given by Rev. Ken Spink of Berea Baptist, and Rev. Dean Henry gave the charge to the pastor. Both of these men were greatly instrumental in helping the church through their eighteen-month interim period. Vocal soloists were Doug Wilson and Terentie Paulesc.

While a pitcher for the New York Giants minor-league farm system in 1950, Fisher received a New Testament from a Baptist church in Knoxville, Tennessee. Reading the New Testament led to his salvation and immediate call to the Gospel ministry.

Fisher, a graduate of Baptist Bible Seminary, comes to Highview from Berean Baptist in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

He and his wife, Barbara, have five grown children.

OIB news deadline for January issue December 1

Medina

"Called To Serve" was the theme for the 41st missions conference at First Baptist. The conference began with a carry-in supper on

Saturday, October 17, and continued each evening through Wednesday, October 21. Missionary speakers included Dr. Jerry (president of Continental Baptist Missions) and Kathy Webber; Beth Odor, Evangelical Baptist Missions; David Toro, church planter among Hispanics in Florida (ABWE), and AWANA missionaries Ken and Mary Lou Starett. The women of the church joined together with the guest missionary women for a salad luncheon. Kathy Webber was the speaker.

The congregation recently called Dr. Bud Wood to fill the position of pastoral care/adult ministries. William Cunningham is senior pastor at First Baptist.

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Left to right: Tim & Becki Konuch, Karen & David James

Kenton

"To Know Him...To Make Him Known" was the theme of the Fall Missions Conference at Faith Baptist, September 26-27. Missionary guests were David and Karen James, serving with Word of Life Fellowship to Hungary, and Tim and Becki Konuch, ABWE missionaries to the Philippines.

Conference highlights included the musical ministry of Tim Konuch on the saxophone and vocal solos by David James; a panel discussion with the missionary families as panelists, moderated by Pastor Burns; and a get acquainted time with testimonies, slide presentations, and a dessert buffet.

Several spiritual commitments have resulted from the conference.

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North Bethel Women Meet

The North Bethel Ladies Fellowship met at Calvary Baptist Church of Findlay on October 1. The theme for the day was, "Come Over and Help Us." Carrie Thompson, missionary appointee under Baptist Mid-Missions to the Indians in Kenora, Ontario, Canada, was the morning speaker, and former missionary Wanda Gough spoke in the afternoon. Special music was provided by Carrie Thompson, violin; Rachel Peeler, flute; Rose Young, Ruth Furiate and Ruth Allen, piano; and Renny Snare, vocalist.

The North Bethel ladies are supporting the Relief Fund of Baptist Mid-Missions as their yearly project.

Women's Page

Dear Ladies,

Last week Peggy Abernathy, my pastor's wife, called to tell us that Don Winters had gone home to be with the Lord. My immediate thought was, "What an abundant entrance that dear man has had into heaven!" He had been used of God to win many, many souls to Christ; and, because he walked what he taught, he was also used of God to impact the lives of all who knew him.

At Brother Don's funeral, his granddaughter sang beautifully the song, "Thank You." One part of that song speaks of giving to missionaries, and I quietly thanked the Lord for the gift Mr. and Mrs. Winters gave that helped my daughter go to England for her MAP experience. I wondered if perhaps there might be at least one British soul in heaven who would say to him, "Thank you for giving to the Lord."

On the way home from the funeral, I continued thinking about that song. It tells of one who faithfully and willingly gave of himself and his possessions here on earth. Consequently, as he arrives in heaven, he is greeted by those who are there because he "gave." Let me quote exactly the part pertaining to missions:

"...then another man stood before you and said, 'Remember the time a missionary came to your church, and his pictures made you cry. You didn't have much money, but you gave it anyway. Jesus took the gift you gave, and that's why I'm here today.'"

I thought then about the videos we women are seeing (you have asked your area representative for the video, haven't

you?). I thought about all that Pastor Biyoyouwei and the VandenAkkers share with us on that tape about the great need in Liberia. I thought also of the pictures of Liberia in Baptist Mid-Missions' *Harvest* publication that certainly must bring tears to our eyes if we look at them through the eyes of Christ. I thought about the quarter savers that so many of you have requested. And then I thought about how wonderful it will be when we get to heaven and have many Liberians say to us, "Jesus took the quarter savers you filled and gave, and that's why I'm here today."

Thank you, ladies, for giving to the Lord.

In His Love,
Sue Miller

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Keeping Up With Our Camps

Skyview Ranch



Latest Skyview Ranch project, Lodge upper and lower deck

The Ranch Lodge upper and lower deck should be completed by mid-November. The volunteers working on the project have been treated to a spectacular view of the fall colors, looking over the Holmes County hills. The project is being supervised by missionary builder Steve Walden, and funded by designated gifts and donations.

In a study of Ranch attendance figures since 1982, the ranch has increased its summer ministry by 50 percent—from 795 in 1982 to 1,215 last summer. During a ten year period from 1983 to 1992 a total of 1,437 decisions were recorded, or 20 percent of the youth campers in attendance. One important value of the ranch ministry is the opportunity

it presents for young people to come away to its planned program and be challenged to make a decision for Christ. With churches holding shorter and fewer revival services, a camping opportunity at the Ranch is for many the only direct challenge they will receive during the year to follow Christ.

The Ranch is solidifying its year-round ministry with its continuing improvements. As a retreat center, it offers church groups of all ages a place to fellowship together, get away, relax, enjoy new or uncommon experiences, allowing churches to bring their groups outdoors into the testimony and beauty of God's creation. The Ranch camp and retreat center ministry offers a valuable resource to the church's program.

RANCH ACTIVITIES

Fall Couples Retreat

November 13-14

Ranch housing is filled. You may still come but will have to make reservations to stay in local motels. Send \$10 deposit per couple to Skyview Ranch.

1993 Winter Retreats

Singles	January 8-9
Teens	February 5-6
	February 26-27
Juniors	February 12-13
	March 5-6
Men	May 13-15,
	Dan Gelatt, speaker

Don Winters with the Lord

Dr. Donald B. Winters went home to be with his Lord on October 7, 1992. Born in Michigan in 1912, much of Brother Winters' life was spent in Ohio. Dr. Winters' life revolved around evangelism, and during his years as an evangelist he held meetings in many churches in Ohio. He also pastored several churches in the state, including First Baptist of Byesville, Memorial Baptist of Columbus and (as interim) Immanuel Baptist of Columbus. He served three terms on the Council of Twelve.

Funeral services were held at Immanuel Baptist of Columbus on October 10, with Pastors William Abernathy, Sr., Bill Abernathy, Jr. and Harold Guthrie officiating.

Winters' wife, Katheryn, continues to serve the Lord at Immanuel Baptist.



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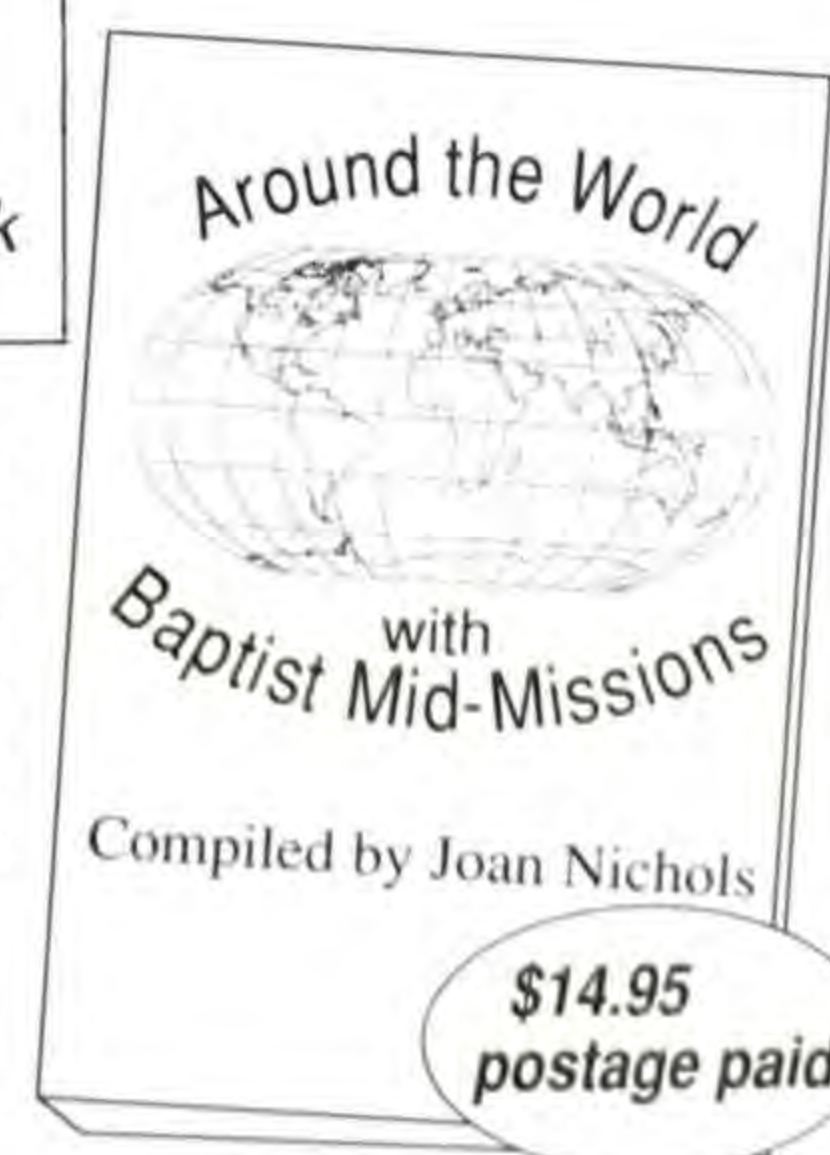
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Regular Baptist Insurance Fund Report

After 30 years of serving our pastors, the Regular Baptist Fellowship Health Care Plan (RBF) has been forced to close down operation. In recent years the cost of health care, coupled with the size and age of our group, have put us into an impossible financial condition. The Council of Twelve therefore voted to discontinue the plan effective November 1, 1992.

This action has left the OARBC with some large claims, amounting to over \$500,000, yet unpaid. Since the RBF plan was, in fact, owned by the Association, it is our responsibility to care for those claims. This will entail a large undertaking, which we approach in full dependence on the Lord.

The Council is requesting that the insured parties **SUBMIT ALL CLAIMS**

NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 30.

Our big challenge now is to deal with the outstanding claims. In order to accomplish this, the Association voted to take out a line of credit in the amount of \$800,000, with Camp Patmos as collateral. This will enable quick payoff of the most pressing claims.

In an effort to lead the way in reducing the debt, the Council of Twelve raised \$70,152 in cash and pledges from themselves and their churches. Another \$33,000 was received from the messengers at the conference, for a total of over \$100,000 raised so far.

You may check this page of future issues of the OIB for an up-date on the status of the RBF payoff.

Across the State

continued



Associate Pastor Terry & Jill Stackhouse, Brian, Julie, and Brent

Amherst

Terry Stackhouse is the new associate pastor at **Faith Baptist**. Terry, whose responsibilities at Faith include youth and music, is a 1986 graduate

of Faith Baptist Bible College in Ankeny, Iowa, with a B.S. in Pastoral Studies. He comes to Amherst from a three-year youth and music ministry in Toledo. Terry and his wife, Jill, have three children, Brent, Julie, and Brian.

After the evening service on October 25, a large cake with sixty candles was wheeled down the center aisle to surprise Pastor Robert Barrett in honor of his 60th birthday. A great time of fellowship followed as the 150 guests ate cake and ice cream and presented gifts to Pastor Barrett.

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